

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIAGO 07837 192020Z

45 L-S

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 L-03 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SCS-03

PRS-01 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DHA-02 SSO-00 ARAE-00 /043 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5798

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 7837

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, CASC, CI (PANCHOT, DANIEL)

SUBJECT: DETENTION OF HOLY CROSS PRIEST DANIEL PANCHOT

REF: (A) SANTIAGO 7814; (B) SANTIAGO 7819

1. CHARGE HAS REQUESTED MEETING WITH UNDER SECRETARY FOREIGN RELATIONS TODAY, NOV. 19. AT THAT MEETING HE WILL DELIVER FOLLOWING NOTE PROTESTING TREATMENT OF FATHER PANCHOT:

2. BEGIN TEXT:

QTE THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND HAS THE HONOR TO REFER TO ITS NOTE NO. 337 OF NOVEMBER 17, 1975 REQUESTING CONSULAR ACCESS TO FATHER DANIEL PANCHOT, AN AMERICAN CITIZEN DETAINED BY CHILEAN AUTHORITIES.

QTE THROUGH THE GOOD OFFICES OF THE MINISTRY, CONSULAR ACCESS TO FATHER PANCHOT WAS GRANTED ON NOVEMBER 18. THE AMERICAN CONSUL INTERVIEWED FATHER PANCHOT AT THE TRES ALAMOS DETENTION CENTER THE EVENING OF NOVEMBER 18. AT THAT TIME, AND BEFORE A DETENTION CENTER OFFICIAL WHO INSISTED UPON BEING PRESENT, FATHER PANCHOT INFORMED THE CONSUL THAT DURING HIS DETENTION HE HAD BEEN STRUCK BY CHILEAN AUTHORITIES AND HAD BEEN THREATENED WITH THE APPLICATION OF ELECTRIC CURRENT TO HIS BODY IF HE DID NOT AMEND A STATEMENT HE HAD PREPARED. FATHERPANCHOT ALSO REPORTED THAT THE CHILEAN AUTHORITIES HAD NOT AT ANY TIME INFORMED HIM OF HIS RIGHT TO CONTACT THE AMERICAN CONSUL.

QTE THE EMBASSY VIGOROUSLY PROTESTS THE ACTION OF CHILEAN
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AUTHORITIES IN SUBJECTING FATHER PANCHOT TO PHYSICAL MISTREATMENT

AND THREAT OF TORTURE AS WELL AS THEIR FAILURE TO NOTIFY HIM
OF HIS RIGHT TO CONTACT THE AMERICAN CONSUL.

QTE THE EMBASSY REQUESTS THAT THE MINISTRY TAKE STEPS
TO ASSURE THAT CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES WILL NOT, IN
THE FUTURE, BE SUBJECTED TO SUCH TREATMENT. THE EMBASSY FURTHER
REQUESTS A REPORT FROM THE MINISTRY INDICATING MEASURES TAKEN
TO THIS END, INCLUDING DISCIPLINARY MEASURES TO BE APPLIED.

QTE THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AVAILS
ITSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN
RELATIONS THE ASSURANCES OF ITS HIGHEST AND MOST DISTINGUISHED
CONSIDERATION. END QUOTE. END TEXT.

3. EMBASSY RECOGNIZES THERE MAY BE STRONG ARGUMENTS FOR RELEASING
INFORMATION ABOUT OUR PROTEST IN PANCHOT CASE. EMBASSY HOPES
THAT THIS CAN AT LEAST BE DELAYED. AT THE TIME CHARGE DELIVERS
PROTEST NOTE ON PANCHOT HE ALSO WILL BE SEEKING GOC COOPERATION
WITH REGARD TO SISTER BERNADETTE THERESA BALLASTY AND MISS
KATHLEEN MARIE OSBERGER (REF B) TO WHOM HE HAS GRANTED TEMPORARY
REFUGE. IT WOULD BE MOST UNFORTUNATE IF OUR EFFORTS TO ASSIST
THESE AMCITS WERE TO BE PREJUDICED BY PREDICTABLE GOC RESENTMENT
AT RELEASE OF INFORMATION ABOUT OUR PROTEST.

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Message Attributes

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